Presently, Air India operates four times a week to Tokyo and twice a week to Osaka from Mumbai and Delhi as the market to Japan from Kolkata is limited as compared to the Japan/Mumbai/Delhi markets.

Accidents involving small Aircrafts

†2173. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and big aircrafts being operated by Government and private companies which met with accidents during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases out of these accidents in which inquiry committees were constituted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There had been 18 accidents to Indian Civil Registered Aircraft from 01.01.2001 to till date.

(b) and (c) There had been two accidents for which Inquiry Committees were constituted. The details of these accidents are as under:

(i) A King Air C-90 aircraft VT-EFF operated by M/s. Jindal Strips Limited, New Delhi was involved in an accident on 30.09.2001 near Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) A Bell 206 helicopter VT-DAP of M/s. Deccan Aviation was involved in an accident on 03.03.2002 at Kaikalur near West Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) In pursuance of Rule 71 of Aircraft Rules, 1937, Inspectors of Accidents were appointed to investigate into the remaining 16 accidents.

Civilian Air Traffic Controllers at Air Force Bases

2174. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Air Force is willing to accommodate

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

civilian air traffic controllers at its airbases particularly in Northern India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No proposal to accommodate Civil Air Traffic Controllers at Air Force Bases has so far been initiated.

(b) Does not arise.

Under utilisation of minor Airports

2175. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing capacities at most of the minor airports across the country are under-utilised and some such airports have even remained non-operational for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a proposal has been formulated to extend help to small airline operators playing to minor aerodrome to undertake regular operations on the feeder routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including steps being taken to provide the requisite infrastructure like passenger amenities, air safety, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 18 non-operational and 15 closed airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI). The details are as below:—

Non Operational Airports — Akola, Behala, Bilaspur, Cooch Behar, Cudappah, Deesa, Hadapsar, Jhansi, Kamalpur, Kolhapur, Lalitpur, Malda, Muzaffarpur, Mysore, Passighat, Sholapur, Warrangal and Kailashahar.

Closed Airports — Aizwal, Asansol, Bellurghat, Chakulia, Donakonda, Hassan, Jharsuguda, Jogbani, Khandwa, Khowai, Panna, Raxaul, Rupsi, Satna and Shella.

(c) and (d) No demand/commitment has been received so far from